



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the
United States Attorney
for the
District of Nebraska
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June 24, 2009

United States Attorney Joe W. Stecher and the Lincoln Police Department and Lancaster County Sheriff's Office announce the following information for the attention of the media:

Event Triggering this Release:

On June 23, 2009, the Honorable Warren K. Urbom, United States District Judge for the District of Nebraska, sentenced Brandi Phillips to seven years and three months for conspiring to distribute methamphetamine in Eastern Nebraska. Forfeiture of \$579.00 was also ordered after the judge found it was proceeds of illegal drug activity. In addition, Phillips was ordered to serve five years on supervised release following completion of her prison sentence.

Phillips and John Cisneros conspired with others in Eastern Nebraska to buy and sell methamphetamine. On June 5, 2008, Lancaster County Sheriff's deputies stopped a vehicle being driven by Brandi Phillips. Discovered during a search of the vehicle was an ounce of methamphetamine, scales and the \$579. During the sentencing, the judge found Phillips had distributed over one and a half kilograms of methamphetamine during her involvement in the conspiracy. Lack of a prior criminal record, in addition to several other factors, allowed Judge Urbom to enter a sentence that was below the mandatory statutory minimum for the offense.

Name of Defendant: Brandi L. Phillips

AKA:

Age: 25

City of residence: Lincoln

Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty)

Ct. I - conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of a substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine

10 years to life in prison, up to \$4,000,000 fine

Ct. II - forfeiture of \$579 as drug proceeds

Forfeiture

Specific Location of Alleged Crime:

Location of Arrest: Lincoln

Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug: over 500 grams of methamphetamine

Others Charged in Same Scheme: John Cisneros (sentenced June 22, 2009)

Relevant Dates:

Date of Alleged Crime: October 1, 2007 through September 1, 2008

Federal Arrest Date: December 22, 2008

Date Complaint Issued:

Indictment Returned Date: December 17, 2008

Initial Appearance Date: December 23, 2008

Plea or Trial and Date(s): pled April 3, 2009

Sentencing Date: June 23, 2009

Next Court Hearing Type and Date:

Assigned Magistrate Judge: David L. Piester

Held without Bond, or Released from Custody: held without bond

In Continuous Custody Since:

Assigned District Court Judge: Warren k. Urbom

Initials of Assigned SAUSA/Preparer of THIS Release: JML